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Through the influence of the New York department of the American Peace Society, the Department of Education at Albany has issued a letter to all the superintendents of the State, advising them to have the 18th of May celebrated as Peace Day in all of the schools, giving one hour to appropriate exercises. If a great State like New York, with its highly centralized system of school management, can take such an advanced step, the workers for international peace may be sure that the other States will not be slow in following the example. Indeed, a number of States have already done so in previous years.

The "*Conciliation Internationale*" held its annual meeting on Monday, the 17th of March, at the *Hotel des Sociétés Savantes*, 28 rue Serpente, Paris. The President, Baron d'Estournelles de Constant, gave an account of his extended trip last year to the United States and Canada. The program included reports of the Geneva Conference of the Interparliamentary Union, the Congress of the German International Conciliation at Heidelberg, and a discussion of the Italo-Turkish and the Balkan wars.

Brief Peace Notes.

. . . Before Congress adjourned, the 4th of March, Hon. Richard Bartholdt, president of the United States Interparliamentary Group, succeeded in getting through, in the Diplomatic and Consular Appropriation Bill, an appropriation of \$2,500 for the Interparliamentary Union for this year, and also one for \$20,000 to enable the United States to do its part in the ornamentation of the new Hague Palace of Peace. Our Government has been very dilatory in doing its share in this work, though it has had assigned to it, for statutory, the most conspicuous place of all in the palace, viz., that at the foot of the grand stairway. The gifts of practically all the other governments are already in place. Much unfavorable comment has been made abroad on our Government's delay. But we shall be with them at the finish.

. . . Norman Angell, author of "*The Great Illusion*," has been invited to lecture before various German universities. His itinerary includes the universities of Berlin, Frankfort, Kiel, Jena, Bonn, Munich, Leipsic, Freiburg, Heidelberg, Marburg, and Göttingen. The object of his visit is to urge upon educators and students the necessity of a closer study of the general problem of the relations of nations. One German university organization has arranged to send an open letter from Mr. Angell to 50,000 German students dealing with the general financial and industrial development of the last thirty years.

. . . Hon. Oscar S. Straus, ex-Ambassador to Constantinople and member of the Hague Court, sailed with Mrs. Straus from New York on March 11 for a tour in Italy and Algiers. Mr. Straus will attend the dedication of the Palace of Peace at The Hague this summer.

. . . On March 14, Secretary Bryan and Ambassador Jusserand exchanged ratifications of the convention approved by the Senate in February for the extension of the arbitration treaty of 1908 between France and the United States for another period of five years. This was Mr. Bryan's first participation in treaty-making.

. . . The Chicago Committee of One Hundred, appointed by Mayor Harrison to arrange for Chicago's part in the celebration of the hundred years of peace, has organized by electing the mayor as honorary chairman, Cyrus H. McCormick chairman, Dr. A. W. Harris vice-chairman, Charles L. Hutchinson treasurer, and K. Norris secretary. Leroy Goddard, president of the Chicago Peace Society, has been chosen chairman of the executive committee. The committee has extended an invitation to Earl Grey to visit Chicago in May and make an address in one of the large halls.

. . . In opening the third session of the present Parliament, on March 10, King George devoted his speech chiefly to the steps which have been taken by the powers to bring the Balkan war to an end. He expressed the desire that the powers might hasten the conclusion of peace, as they were all anxious to prevent the hostilities from spreading, and had come to an agreement in principle on matters of the greatest importance.

President Wilson's Attitude Toward Latin-America.

On the 11th of March President Wilson made public the following statement of his proposed policy toward the Central and South American republics:

One of the chief objects of my administration will be to cultivate the friendship and deserve the confidence of our sister republics of Central and South America, and to promote in every proper and honorable way the interests which are common to the peoples of the two continents. I earnestly desire the most cordial understanding and co-operation between the peoples and leaders of America, and, therefore, deem it my duty to make this brief statement.

Co-operation is possible only when supported at every turn by the orderly processes of just government based upon law, not upon arbitrary or irregular force. We hold, as I am sure all thoughtful leaders of republican government everywhere hold, that just government rests always upon the consent of the governed, and that there can be no freedom without order based upon law and upon the public conscience and approval. We shall look to make these principles the basis of mutual intercourse, respect, and helpfulness between our sister republics and ourselves. We shall lend our influence of every kind to the realization of these principles in fact and practice, knowing that disorder, personal intrigue, and defiance of constitutional rights weaken and discredit government, and injure none so much as the people who are unfortunate enough to have their common life and their common affairs so tainted and disturbed. We can have no sympathy with those who seek to seize the power of government to advance their own personal interests or ambition. We are the friends of peace, but we know that there can be no lasting or stable peace in such circumstances. As friends, therefore, we shall prefer those who act in the interests of peace and honor, who protect private rights, and respect the restraints of constitutional provision. Mutual respect seems to us the indispensable foundation of friendship between States, as between individuals.

The United States has nothing to seek in Central and South America except the lasting interests of the peo-

ples of the two continents, the security of governments intended for the people and for no special group or interest, and the development of personal and trade relationship between the two continents which shall redound to the profit and advantage of both, and interfere with the rights and liberties of neither.

From these principles may be read so much of the future policy of this Government as it is necessary now to forecast; and in the spirit of these principles, I may, I hope, be permitted, with as much confidence as earnestness, to extend to the governments of all the republics of America the hand of genuine disinterested friendship, and to pledge my own honor and the honor of my colleagues to every enterprise of peace and amity that a fortunate future may disclose.

An Event of Enormous Importance.

The following letter of the late Ambassador Whitelaw Reid in regard to the British-American Peace Centenary will be read with deep interest at the present time:

DORCHESTER HOUSE, PARK LANE, W., December 6, 1912.

MY DEAR MR. DONALD: I am finding once more this week that there is never a convenient moment for being ill.

But nothing has troubled me so much since the breakdown, three or four weeks ago, that followed my over-work in the autumn and early winter, as to learn now that the physicians will not consent to my attending the public meeting at the Mansion House to help inaugurate your movement for celebrating the hundredth anniversary of peace between our two countries. I especially wish to be present because I regard this as an event of enormous importance, and think that a failure to give it such a celebration as should challenge the attention of the whole world would be a crime. You may have possibly noticed that at our last Fourth of July celebration by the American Society in London I took the opportunity to bring the matter forward as prominently as I could. I recall also our frequent conversations on the subject, and am now greatly pleased not only with your activity in the matter, but with the admirable results of your work. I have read the leaflets, "The Hundredth Anniversary of Peace among English-speaking Peoples," "The Centenary of the Treaty of Ghent," and "The Peace of the Canadian Frontier," with great interest, and I congratulate you heartily on the skill with which these subjects are presented.

If I dared to promise to be present at the Lord Mayor's meeting, I would, and if by the time it comes I can escape so far from the thralldom of the physicians, I surely shall be. Meantime I hope the work is in as forward and promising a state in my country as here. I am sure the Centenary could not have come at a moment more helpful for the peace of the world.

With thanks and all good wishes, believe me, dear Mr. Donald,

Sincerely yours,

WHITELAW REID.

St. Louis expects every pacifist to do his duty and attend the Fourth American Peace Congress the first three days of May.

The Baseless Fear of War.

By Andrew Carnegie.

Reprinted from *The Independent*, of February 13, 1913.

Officials under the present administration have recently become prominent in surprising efforts to increase our naval and military forces, the latest and most startling being Colonel Goethal's estimate of no less than 25,000 soldiers as necessary to guard the Panama Canal, strongly fortified against naval assault as it is. Under present conditions no sensible man would object to adequate protection of our whole country by the army and navy; but surely this is madness.

The pending demand is for three battleships this session; but General Wood tells us that the canal, once opened, is to require more battleships than hitherto, differing in this from the President, who has assured us that only one battleship per year would be required after the canal was opened, because our fleet could then be transferred either to the Atlantic or Pacific, as required, thus doubling its efficiency.

Mr. Roosevelt holds "that there is but one way to maintain international peace—that is, by keeping our army and navy in such a state of preparation that there will be no temptation on the part of some one else to go to war with us. "Some one else" is indefinite indeed. Our Republic has no one who wishes to go to war with her today, and has not in our day had one desirous of doing so, although Mr. Roosevelt, when President, was once strongly frightened. He had proclaimed his policy to be one battleship a year, not to increase the present navy, but only to maintain its efficiency; but he applied for four warships next session of Congress. The dreaded foe has not yet appeared. His fears were groundless. It is stated that we, remote as we are from danger, are now spending about 70 per cent of our total expenditures upon army and navy, including pensions, while Britain, in the very center of the only strong military and naval powers, spends only 43 per cent of hers on army and navy, which seems incredible. It is high time we should look into this.

No one ventures to name the nations or nation that has the faintest idea of quarreling with us, nor have we any idea of quarreling with any. All we have to do is to show our confidence in the continuance of present happy relations with all and cease expanding either army or navy.

Our military and naval officials fight imaginary foes when they think of possible invasions of enemies. The Republic, having no designs of territorial acquisition nor powerful neighbors, has no enemies to fear. It is the reverse with European lands, joined together, each armed against the other as probable invaders. We expect those of our military and naval circles to dwell in their dreams upon possible attacks, devising counter-measures of attack and defense—"Tis their vocation." But to any proposal of increased army or navy we hope our President-elect's response will be—"Pray tell us first against what enemy you need this further protection. Name the power or powers, and tell us what object they can have for attacking us, how they can benefit therefrom—what end in view." There are today only two navies greater than our own, those of Britain and Germany. We rank third. Does any sensible man, naval and military officers excepted, fear war,